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During several weeks in October-November 1953 continuous firing exercises took place in Western Poland, directly east of Zgorzelec. On 15 November, for example, machine gun fire began at 4:00 a.m. and continued through 7:00 p.m. Comparable firing took place on 18 November. The firing seemed to be part of military exercises but the number of participants is unknown. The automatic firing has been a source of irritation to the residents of Goerlitz during the past few months, particularly because it disturbs their hours of rest.

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